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Rep. Vorpagel Statement on Passage of Special Session UI Bill

Madison- State Representative Tyler Vorpagel (R-Plymouth) issued the following passage of the Special Session UI Bill in the Assembly:

"While nonpartisan audits of the unemployment insurance system showed that mismanagement was what drove the backlog and delays, not the computer system, the legislature remains committed to helping our constituents navigate through the Governor's Department of Workforce Development. That is why the Assembly took bipartisan action today by directing Governor Evers to begin upgrading the state's unemployment insurance computer system. For the past few months the Governor has chosen to use the computer system as an excuse, while continuing to take no action despite insisting on urgency.

"As the individual elected to be in charge of and lead the Department of Workforce Development, it is unfortunate the Governor has failed to take effective and timely action. As has already been shown numerous times, Governor Evers has both the authority and funding to begin updating the system but instead would rather play politics with people on unemployment.

"The bill we passed today requires DWD to issue a request for proposals within 30 days, with the computer upgrade beginning by June 30, 2021, and requires federal funds be used before utilizing state funds. We also amended the bill to include additional relief for those who lost their jobs, and protections for businesses, schools and local governments from frivolous lawsuits."

Representative Tyler Vorpagel (R-Plymouth) serves the 27th Assembly District which includes Kiel, Cleveland, Elkhart Lake, Howards Grove, Plymouth, Kohler, and Sheboygan.

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